Home Going Celebration

For

Mother Etta Beatrice Graves

First Light
March 13, 1926

Twilight
January 31, 2006

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
Proverbs 3:6

Services Held

Tuesday, February 7, 2006
11:00 A.M.
McGlothen Temple Church of God in Christ
1443 Filbert Street
Richmond, California

Officiating

Administrative Assistant John A. Jennings, Pastor

In Loving Remembrance

Etta Beatrice Graves was born March 13, 1926 in El Dorado, Arkansas to the late sharecroppers Wheatley and Willie Roberson. She was the fourth of eight children. She received her education in El Dorado, Arkansas.

In 1945 she along with her dear cousin Mabel, re-located to Richmond, California. She later met and married Mr. Ivan Graves on February 22, 1947 at the home of Dad Samuel and Mother Lydia Graves. To this union seven children were born.

She was employed for a short while with the United States Postal Service, until her husband's request for her to become a full time Wife and Mother. She excelled in both roles. Mother Graves was known for her unique skills as a seamstress; she made most of the garments that she and her daughters wore until she could afford the luxury of shopping in Department stores.

In early 1950 she was invited to attend a Soul-saving Revival conducted by Evangelist Morris at the McGlothen Temple Church of God in Christ. She was saved and filled with the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and the rest is history. That same night she united with the church and was a loyal and faithful member for more than 55 years! She served faithfully under the leadership of Bishop G.W. McGlothen, Bishop Clarence J. Davis and the current Pastor, Supt. John A. Jennings.

Mrs. Etta B. Graves more affectionately known as ***"Mother Graves",*** served in many capacities at McGlothen Temple. She was a member of the Choir, Usher Board, Y.P.WW. and Y.W.C.C. She was a teacher for the Sunshine and Prayer and Bible Bands. She served for many years as the leader for the Noon Day Prayer. She was also the Choir Mother to the Voices of McGlothen Temple and every third Sunday in September she opened her home to them to use as a dressing room. While serving as Choir Mother she assumed the role of advisor, counselor, peace maker, mediator, motivator and sometimes sounding board. She enjoyed working with the auxiliaries and serving on the boards, but her most fulfilling work, a labor of love, was being the Junior Church Mother working along side Elder Samuel Butler. Her unconditional love for her own children and the Youth of McGlothen Temple earned her the title ***"Mother Graves".***

Missionary Etta Graves also served as Assistant District Missionary in the Richmond District and was later appointed District Missionary for the Greater Richmond District. She served faithfully, when her health began to fail, she decided to pass the mantle.

On January 31, 2006 at approximately 3:45 a.m., her journey on earth was coming to a close. God sent a brilliant and beautiful light to lead her home. It was so bright you had to see it to believe it. Mother Graves was given her wings and she went home to be with the Lord.

Mother Etta B. Graves, was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers Walter and Wardell Roberson. She leaves to cherish fond memories, her loving and devoted husband of 58 years, 11 months and 9 days Dad Ivan Graves; 7 daughters Ms. Cheryl Graves, Mrs. Yolanda Nash, Miss'y Debra Graves, Ms. Gail Butler, Mrs. Angela (George) Nixon, Ms. Adriene Pennington and Miss'y Jacqueline (Marvis) Douglas; 2 sons Deacon Ivan (Pamela) Graves and Mr. Gary G. Graves; 1 God-son Mr. Zacar Daniels; 4 sisters Mrs. Leerie Hayes, Mrs. Willie Ann McNeal, Mrs. Eula M. Massey and Mrs. Mabel Eddington; 2 brothers Mr. Edward and Mr. Booker T. Roberson; 2 sister in laws Mrs. Margery Woodard and Mrs. Ellen M. Jones; 14 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives. She will also be greatly missed by the Officers and Members of the McGlothen Temple Church of God in Christ and the Greater Richmond District.

A Virtuous Woman

Who can find a virtuous woman?
For her price is far above rubies.

She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness

Many daughters have done virtuosly, but thou excellest them all.

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

Give her the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

The Order of Home Going Celebration

*Where Indicated Please Stand

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Quiet Moments		The Organist
The Call To Worship		Elder Richard Foster Master of Ceremonies

The hour of Home Going Celebration has come,
O Lord hear our prayers and accept our meditations
As we glorify your Name. Amen

The Processional *Pastor John A. Jennings Elders Ministers Deacons Mothers Board Pall Bearers		
The Family		
*The Hymn of Joy	"Oh Heaven, Heaven is Mine"	Congregation
*The Prayer of Comfort		Elder Malachi Hall
*The Old Testament	Proverbs 31:10-21	Elder Ronald Huey
*The New Testament	2 Timothy 4:5-8	Elder Dennis Braxton
The Selection		Choir
The Reflections	2 Minutes Please	Family & Friends
The Expressions		
McGlothen Temple Women's Department		Mother Victoria Williams
McGlothen Temple Department of Men		Deacon Rufus Robinson
Greater Richmond District		District Missionary Martha B. Hall
CA NW Jurisdictional Supervisor of Women (Representative)		District Missionary Lena Willis

The Order of Home Going Celebration Continued

The Solo	(Request of Dad Graves)	Elder Gerald Harris
The Expressions	Elders/Ministers	Elder Philip Hollins
The Special Remarks Word of Faith Christian Center Olivet Institutional Missionary Baptist Church Showers of Blessings Church of God in Christ		Pastor's of Family Members Pastor Cynthia Porter Dr. Gordon A. Humphrey Dr. Darnell Thomas
The Resolutions McGlothen Temple Church of God in Christ Greater Richmond District		Miss'y Brenda Shephard Miss'y Emma Clark
The Cards/Condolences and Obituary		Miss'y Kathy Hollins
The Introduction of Celebration Speaker		Elder Richard Foster
The Sermonic Solo		Evangelist Mary Willard
The Eulogy		Administrative Assistant John A. Jennings

Parting View
Stewart's Rose Manor Funeral Services

Recessional

Interment
Rolling Hills Memorial Park
4100 Hilltop Drive
Richmond, California

Repass
McGlothen Temple Church of God in Christ
Dining Hall

Endless Love

Believeth All Things...

Beareth All Things...

Hopeth All things...

Endureth All Things...

Love Never Fails....

Until We Meet Again

A Mother's Love
By
Ivan D. Graves

A Mother's love for her child starts before birth,
But after birth is when a child can really feel the love of a Mother.
I love my Mother , for I knew that when she had gone there couldn't and wouldn't be another. I knew that no matter what kind of trials and tribulations that people put me through, she would always love me true.
The love that she gave to me, sometimes was taken for granted,
now that she is gone I can't get the message across the way I want and the way it is down deep in my heart. So when trying to make a wish in just a line or two reflecting all the Love given to me,
I finally came upon a prayer that says it best.
The way you prayed for me when I was down and out, I will pray for others. I pray that all their hopes and dreams, that they will all come true, and should there be some rain, I know the sun will shine again , because I'll be praying for them. I will be praying that God will keep them in his loving care till we meet again some day, and I can once again feel the
LOVE OF A MOTHER.

Mom, we all love and miss you. We thank God for you,
what you taught us and how you taught us to be.
We hope and pray that we can be a reflection of your radiant life.
Good Night Momma...
We will see you in the Morning.....
Love,

Cheryl *Lonnie*

Debbie *Cutty*

Petie *Gary* *Dinky* *Buffy*

Pallbearers

Elder James Daniels
Elder Lacy Douglas III
Mr. Zacar Daniels
Mr. Clifford Hayes
Mr. Johnnie Rolling
Mr. Frank White

Honorary Pallbearers

Bro. Jamar Butler
Bro. Javance Butler
Mr. Gary Graves
Mr. Allen Nixon
Mr. Pierce Nixon
Mr. Robert Nixon
The McGlothen Temple Mother's Board

Acknowledgement

Dad Graves, his sons and daughters wish to express their sincere gratitude for the outpouring of love shown toward us at this most difficult time. Please continue to pray for our strength. May God Bless You.

The Graves Family

Final Arrangements Entrusted To

Stewart's Rose Manor Funeral Home
3331 MacDonald Avenue
Richmond, California

Interment

Rolling Hills Memorial Park
4100 Hilltop Drive
Richmond, California